

## UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**REGION II** 

290 BROADWAY
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007-1866

March 17, 2014

## BY ELECTRONIC MAIL & U.S. MAIL

William H. Hyatt, Jr., Esq. K&L Gates LLP One Newark Center, Tenth Floor Newark, NJ 07102-5285

Re: Diamond Alkali Site - Lower Passaic River Modeling Collaboration Meetings

Dear Mr. Hyatt:

This is to follow up on the discussion between Ray Basso and Mike Barbara about the modeling meetings that U.S. Environmental Protection Agency ("EPA") and the Cooperating Parties Group ("CPG") have agreed to hold during 2014. These meetings continue a previous practice by EPA and the CPG, which had recently been somewhat preempted by discussions focusing on the CPG's modeling in support of its "targeted remedy."

EPA has concluded that Occidental Chemical Corporation ("Occidental") should be given the opportunity to attend the meetings. This will allow Occidental to remain informed about development of the modeling, which is relevant to Occidental's implementation of the remedial investigation and feasibility study ("RI/FS") for Newark Bay, and its understanding of the Lower Passaic River Study Area. We expect that Occidental would be represented by Tierra Solutions, Inc. ("Tierra") but we will also invite Glenn Springs Holdings, Inc. to send a technical representative.

While timing would not allow the CPG to arrange for Occidental's attendance at the meeting on Thursday, March 13, 2014, which addressed sediment transport, we expect that Occidental will participate at the meeting on April 10, 2014, addressing contaminant fate and transport. To inform Occidental about the March 13, 2014 meeting, we will provide informal notes taken by the CPG, reviewed and approved by EPA. We hope that you agree that Occidental's attendance will be beneficial to multiple aspects of the Diamond Alkali Site.

Please do not hesitate to call me if you would like to discuss this matter.

Sincerely yours,

Lacat P. Flanagan
Sarah P. Flanagan

Assistant Regional Counsel

cc:

K. Mack, K&L Gates, LLP

R. Basso, ERRD

J. LaPoma, ERRD

E. Naranjo, ERRD

P. Hick, ORC